



PRESS RELEASE

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INDY PARKS HONORED WITH SEVEN INDIANA PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Agency Recognized for Outstanding Facilities, Essential Service Awards and Outstanding Special Projects

INDIANAPOLIS –Indy Parks and Recreation today received seven awards selected by the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA). The IPRA is a professional association representing more than 900 parks and recreation professionals throughout the state. Members include agency superintendents, directors, and other professional staff; corporate vendors that supply recreation equipment and professional services; elected officials; students; and citizen advocates. Recipients were recognized today at the IPRA Awards Luncheon at the Marriott East.

“Our employees are loyal stewards of the parks system, programs and assets. They embrace the challenges with a united front to elevate achievements and find better ways to serve and celebrate parks,” said Indy Parks Director Stuart Lowry. “Our solid team model and plans for moving forward will continue, from the unprecedented investment and success highlighted by the transformation of aquatics, to the other divisions unfolding great stories in their own right -- the Arts, Land Stewardship, Sports, Family Centers, capital projects, Greenways, Environmental Education, schools, Neighborhood Parks, and so many more across the system.”

IPRA Awards Presented to Indy Parks

Essential Service Awards – special recognition in the following categories:

- Education – Staff/Board Training and Awareness in recognition of Indy Parks Staff Retreat and Customer Service PARKS. PARKS is an acronym which stands for Please and Thank You, A+ Attitude, React, Respond, Resolve, Know It! Own it!, Sensational Service with a Smile.



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- Most Creative – Special Recognition of “Good to Great” acknowledges Broad Ripple Park Manager Kathy Fitzgerald’s special practices to introduce new programming and increase attendance.
- Health and Fitness – Indy Parks’ Fitness and Nutrition program, led by health specialist Jean Deeds, provided resources to more than 1,000 children during an eight-week summer program. The program was funded by grants in partnership with the Indianapolis Parks Foundation to address health issues facing children by teaching them the value of combining nutritious food with healthful activities.

Outstanding Facility – an award of notable building and recreation complexes completed in 2010 divided by price category.

- \$0 - \$250,000: The Ornithology Center at Eagle Creek Park
- \$250,000 - \$500,000: LaShonna Bates Indoor Aquatic Center
- \$500,000 - \$750,000: Thatcher Indoor Aquatic Center

Outstanding Special Projects – an award of progressive or interesting concepts for energy conservation, creative financing plans, and management techniques.

- Energy Conservation: Aquatics Investment – Indy Parks invested \$6.5 million to fix leaking pipes and decaying infrastructure of its pools system, which had been losing nearly 35 million gallons of water each season.

For more information about the IPRA, visit www.inpra.org.

Bike Indy. Swim Indy. Run Indy.
PLAY INDY!

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